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Claims 23-34 and 36-43 are pending herein.

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1. Claims 23-34 and 36-43 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mannhart et al (2005/0173679).

The presently claimed invention is drawn to a superconductive article comprising at least three superconductive films. The claimed invention particularly calls for the at least three superconductive films being disposed one atop another, atomically bonded to each other, and free of intervening bonding layers between films. The claimed feature of at least three superconductive films being atomically bonded is of particular significance, and is a result of forming processes according to embodiments of the claimed invention. In contrast, Mannhart et al. is drawn to methods of physically joining adjacent superconductive films, by mechanical force, or through the use of an intermediate layer. At no time does Mannhart disclose adjacent superconductive layers that are atomically bonded free of an intervening bonding layer. That is, the teachings of Mannhart are limited to multilayers including intermediate layers between adjacent superconductive films, or physically joining adjacent superconductive films.

The attention of the PTO is drawn to the Rule 132 Declaration attached hereto, which provides a more detailed technical explanation. As explained in the Declaration, physically joining adjacent superconductive films by mechanical force does not result in atomically bonded superconductive films. Further, the use of an intermediate layer, either in the final product or one that is melted to join two adjacent superconductive films, does not result in a plurality of superconductive films that are atomically bonded to each other and free of an intervening bonding layer.

Applicants submit that the PTO's reliance upon Mannhart et al. is now deficient. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections based on Mannhart is respectfully requested.

Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to issue a Notice of Allowance for all pending claims.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action by the Applicants would be desirable for placing this application in even better condition for issue, the Examiner is requested to telephone Applicants' undersigned representative at the number listed below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number 50-3797.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date


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